Surf the Web to Find Out About Toxic Chemicals in Your Community...

OPTION 1: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ENVIROFACTS WEBSITE
CREATED AND MAINTAINED BY USEPA.

To View a Report on Toxic Chemicals in Your Community...

1. Go to website **http://www.epa.gov/enviro/index_java.html.** The EnviroFacts Home Page will display.

2. Click on **"Queries, Maps, and Reports."** Click on **"Toxics Release Inventory"** from the list. A list of queries will appear. Click on **"Toxics Releases Query."** "Toxics Release Query Form" will display.

3. Enter specific search criteria including facility, geographic, industrial classification, and/or chemical search criteria. You may enter any combination of criteria. For starters, enter a zip code next to **"Geography Search."**

4. Page down to the bottom of the query form and click on the **"Search"** button. A **"TRIS Query Results"** report for the zip code will display.

5. Click on the **"TRI Facility ID"** for chemical releases specific to a facility. An "Envirofacts TRIS Report" report for a particular facility will display.

6. Page down to view aggregate releases of TRI chemicals, names and amounts of chemicals released to the environment by year, summary of waste management activities, and non-production releases.

7. Under "Names and Amounts of Chemicals Released to the Environment by Year", click on underlined chemical names to link to **"Envirofacts Warehouse Chemical References"**. Chemical references include links to chemical facts sheets, material safety data sheets, health risk information, etc.

8. Page back to the Envirofacts Report and click on the **"Map This Facility"** button for a map of the area surrounding a specific facility.

9. For a more detailed map, page down and click on **"Map with Enviromapper"** to map a specific facility. Skip to #3 under **To View a Map of Your Community** for instructions on using Enviromapper.

Surf the Web to Find Out About Toxic Chemicals in Your Community...

To View a Map of Your Community...

1.   Go to website **http://www.epa.gov/enviro/index_java.html.** The EnviroFacts Home Page will display.

2.   Click on **"Queries, Maps, and Reports."** Click on **"Maps on Demand."** Click on **"Enviromapper."** A map of the United States will appear.

3.   Zoom in on the map by clicking on a state geographic area. Adjust the zoom factor by clicking on the **"Zoom in by"** pull down menu. Select a factor (2X, 4X, 8X, 16X), then click on the map to zoom in on a geographic area.

4.   Display specific map features by choosing from the list of features on the left portion of the screen. Those features currently displayed are indicated by a check mark. To display schools in the area, click on the box immediately to the left of **"schools"** so that a check mark appears in the box. Then click on the **"Redraw Map"** button at the bottom of the **"Map Features"** table.

5.   Use the **zoom in and zoom out** buttons to focus on larger or smaller areas. Use the **compass** to pan the map by clicking on the direction you wish to pan.

6.   Get specific information about facilities on the map. First, click on the circle next to **"Toxic Releases."** Second, click on the circle next to **"Identify"** in the lower right corner of the map. Third, click on one of the aqua-colored squares on the map. A new map will appear. Click on the link next to the aqua-colored square below the map. An **"Envirofacts TRIS Report"** will display.

7.   Page down to view aggregate releases of TRI chemicals, names and amounts of chemicals released to the environment by year, summary of waste management activities, and non-production releases.

8.   Click on underlined chemical names to link to **"Envirofacts Warehouse Chemical References"**. Chemical references include links to chemical facts sheets, material safety data sheets, health risk information, etc.

OPTION 2: RIGHT-TO-KNOW NET WEBSITE
CREATED AND MAINTAINED BY THE RIGHT-TO-KNOW NETWORK. FUNDED IN PART BY USEPA.

To View a Report on Toxic Chemicals in Your Community...

1. Go to website **www.rtk.net.** The Right-to-Know Network Home Page will display. Click on **"Databases"** on the left portion of the screen.

2. The Environmental Database Master Search list will display. Click on **"Toxics Release Inventory"**.

3. Click on **"Geographic Area"**. A query form will display.

4. Enter zip code, city, county, state, reporting year search criteria, and level of detail. Click on **"Submit Query"** button.

5. A facility report for the criteria entered will display. The report also includes a breakdown of releases by chemical.

6. Click on a highlighted **chemical name** to view a material safety data sheet for that chemical. Health hazard information, medical, workplace controls and practices, personal protective equipment, handling and storage, fire hazards, spills and emergencies, and ecological information is included on the data sheet. In addition, some chemicals have an associated Integrated Risk Information System report. Click on **"IRIS report"** to link to toxicological information for that chemical.

OPTION 3: ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE SCORECARD WEBSITE
THIS EXERCISE DOES NOT ENDORSE THE ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE AND/OR SCORECARD.

To View a Report on Toxic Chemicals in Your Community...

1. Go to website **www.edf.org.** The Environmental Defense Home Page will display. Click on the **"Scorecard"** button on the menu bar across the top of the screen.

2. Or, go directly to the **Scorecard** website at **www.scorecard.org.**

3.   The Scorecard Home Page will display. At the top of the screen on the right hand side you will see a text box labeled **"Find Your Community"**. Click on the text box, and type in your home or school zip code. Then click on the **"Go"** button to the right of the zip code, or hit Enter.

4.   **"About Your Community"** summary information for your zip code and county will appear including water, air, land, and waste pollution information. Scroll down to the Waste section under **Toxic Chemical Releases from Manufacturing Facilities.** Click on **"Who is Polluting Your Community?"** or **"What are the Major Pollutants?"** to find out more about facilities and pollutants in your community.

To View a Map of Your Community...

1.   Go to website **www.edf.org.** The Environmental Defense Fund Home Page will display. Click on the **"Scorecard"** button on menu bar across the top of the screen.

2.   Or, go directly to the **Scorecard** website at **www.scorecard.org.**

3.   The Scorecard Home Page will display. At the top of the screen on the right hand side you will see a text box labeled **"Find Your Community"**. Click on the text box, and type in your home or school zip code. Then click on the **"Go"** button to the right of the zip code, or hit Enter.

4.   **"About Your Community"** summary information for your zip code and county will appear including water, air, land, and waste pollution information. Page down and click on **"Explore the Maps"**. A map will display for your community with trend information for your particular county. Click on the map and select from the pull-down menu to zoom in on a particular area. Yellow boxes represent TRI facilities in your community.

5.   Click on an individual yellow box and select summary information about a particular facility. Information includes the facility ranking relative to other facilities in the state, a data summary of chemical releases and transfers, and links to human health risk information. You may also select summary information for your county or state.

6.   Close the report to navigate back to your community map and click on other facilities to view.

COMPLETE AN ACTIVITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT A CHEMICAL

1. Review the activity book found in the Teach with Databases: Toxics Release Inventory package.

2. Have the class complete *Activity 2.2: Learning More About a Toxic Chemical* by searching for information on the above websites and other links. The activity includes questions about health related hazards, workplace exposure limits, personal protective equipment, and exposure treatment methods for a chosen chemical.